(c) to (e) The project is proposed to be funded by NTPC from its internal resources and direct borrowings. No net budgetary support is envisaged for the project by the Government. NTPC has posed this project to World Bank for part financing under its Time Slice Loan(s) to NTPC. NTPC has also kept External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) as alternative route for part financing of this project in addition to World Bank funding.

Reform in Power Sector

2608. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring reform in the power sector;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in that direction during Ninth Plan;

(c) whether any emphasis has been laid on increasing power generation; and

(d) if so, the details of the plan formulated therefor state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of policy initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Power to bring reform in the Power Sector. The Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 was enacted for setting up Electricity Regulatory Commissions both at the Centre and in the States for regulation of tariffs. By enacting the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Act, 1998, path has been laid for facilitating more investment in the transmission sector. The Government have also approved a new Hydel Policy which lays down the mechanism for increasing investment in hydel generation. An action Plan has been drawn up for the development of North Eastern Region encompassing capacity addition programmes as well as transmission lines and strengthening the transmission and distribution system. Efforts are under way for privatising distribution based on the recommendations of the Coelho Committee. As per the new mega power policy approved by the Government, Mega projects are proposed to be set up both in the public and private sectors. It is also proposed to set up a Power Trading Corporation to purchase power from the private projects and sell these to the identified State Electricity Boards. Five Task Forces have been set up to monitor Hydel, Thermal, Systems, Reform & Restructuring and Private Sector, Projects. The objective of the Task Forces is to ensure timely completion of the projects by removing bottlenecks.

(c) According to the draft Ninth Plan document prepared by the Planning Commission, a total capacity addition of 40245 MW has been envisaged.

(d) The State-wise details are enclosed in Annexure.

[*See* Appendix 185, Annexure No. 66]

निजी क्षेत्र में विद्युत उत्पादन की समीक्षा करने के लिए विशेषज्ञ दल का गठन

2609. **श्री दलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने निजी क्षेत्र में विद्युत उत्पादन नीति और उससे संबंधित प्रोत्साहन पैकेज की समीक्षा हेतु किसी विशेषज्ञ दल का गठन किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त विशेषज्ञ दल के विचारार्थ विषयों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या उक्त विशेषज्ञ दल द्वारा निजी क्षेत्रों की विद्युत इकाईयों के कार्यकरण पर समय-समय पर निगरानी की जाती है और उनका मूलयांकन किया जाता है; और

(घ) उनके द्वारा सरकार को अब तक प्रस्तुत किए गए प्रतिवेदनों की संख्या कितनी है?

विद्युत मंत्री (श्री पी० आर० कुमारमंगलम): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होते।